

# The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 9669

九十六八九第 日八初月八年五十一

HONGKONG, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD, 1888.

一月廿

號一月九英卷香

PRICE 32¢ PER MONTH

## SHIPPING.

### ARRIVALS.

August 30. AMY, German str., 814. L. Kohler, Shanghai 27th August, General—S. M. SEN & Co.

August 31. TITAN, British steamer, 1,000. R. J. Brown, Liverpool 20th July, and Singapore 23rd August, General—BUTTERFIELD & SWINE.

August 31. TRIUMPH, German str., 675. P. Moes Whampoa 31st August, General—WIELER & Co.

August 31. NAMOA, British steamer, 853. F. D. Goldard, Foochow 27th August, Amy 28th, and Swatow 30th, General—DOUGLAS LAFAIETTE & Co.

August 31. SOOCHEW, British steamer, 329. Melrose, Pakhoi 28th August, and Holloway 29th, General—CHINESE—WIELER & Co.

August 31. MARIE, German steamer, 704. C. A. Handasyd, Haiphong 29th August, Rio—A. R. MARTY.

August 31. JOHANN, German steamer, 428. H. Bunge, Pakhoi 28th August, and Holloway 29th, General—WIELER & Co.

September 1. FIDELIO, German steamer, 853. H. Bunge, Pakhoi 28th August, and Holloway 29th, General—WIELER & Co.

September 1. ALMIRANTE BARREIRO, Brazilian corvette, Custodio Jose de Melo, Shanghai 27th August.

September 1. DON JUAN, Spanish steamer, 651. Jose M. Marquez Maria 29th August, General—BRANDAO & Co.

September 1. FORMOSA, British steamer, 674. T. Hall, Keelung 30th August, Coal—DOUGLAS LAFAIETTE & Co.

September 1. NARZING, British steamer, 808. B. Thomas, Manila 29th August, General—JARDINE, MATHISON & Co.

September 1. CYDNE, British steamer, 1,193. J. L. Parritt, R.N.R., Boulogne 15th August, and Singapore 27th, Mails and General—E. & O. S. N. Co.

September 1. ARAKTON APOAH, British str., 1,392. J. G. Oliff, Calcutta 16th August, Penang 24th, and Singapore 27th, Opium and General—D. SAWSON & Co.

September 1. KENT, British steamer, 1,623. F. Johnson, Kobe 25th August, General—GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.

CLEARANCES.

AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE. 31ST AUGUST.

Proprietary, British str., for Kuchingtau.

Diamonds, British str., for Manila.

Titan, British str., for Amy.

Fokker, British str., for Swatow.

Glynde, British str., for Shanghai.

Yangtze, German str., for Shanghai.

Nicaragua, German str., for Saigon.

Falkenburg, German str., for Saigon.

Triumph, German str., for Chefoo.

Hedwigsburg, Manch., for Port Coburg.

Active, Dutch str., for Holloway.

Eles, German str., for Pakhoi.

Stoeckli, British str., for Holloway.

DEPARTURES.

August 31. DIAMANTE, British str., for Manila.

August 31. GLENGEY, British str., for Shanghai.

August 31. AMOY, German str., for Whampoa.

September 1. FALENFROTH, Ger. str., for Saigon.

September 1. EISE, German str., for Pakhoi.

September 1. FOKER, British str., for Swatow.

September 1. NIESTER, Ger. str., for Saigon.

September 1. PROPHET, British steamer, for Kuchingtau.

September 1. TRIUMPH, Ger. str., for Chefoo.

September 1. YANGTZE, Ger. str., for Shanghai.

ARRIVED.

Per Tides, str., from Liverpool, &c.—91 China.

Per Amy, str., from Shanghai—Mr. W. G. Huntley, and 50 Chines.

Per Nansen, str., from East Coast—Miss Miles, Miss Angell, Mr. Jenkins, one Sister of Charity, and 180 Chines.

Per Swatow, str., from Pakhoi, &c.—28 Chines.

Per Fidelio, str., from Dali—12 Chines.

Per Mavis, str., from Haiphong—2 Chines.

Per Johann, str., from Pakhoi—21 Chines.

Per Nansen, str., from Manila—25 Chines.

Per Fornox, str., from Kedung—Mr. T. L. Lapeyre, and 2 Chines.

Per Clyde, str., for Hongkong—From Bonny, Mr. Scott, and servant. From Penang—Misses J. Koch and servant. W. Scott and servant. Husband and wife. Lee Num, and 31 Chinese chins. From Singapore—Misses C. E. Higmore, F. Hoffmann, and Clur F. Guan. For Manila—From London—Mr. T. Taylor. For Shanghai—From London—Mr. F. Harvey. From Singapore—Mr. and Mrs. Dugdale, infant and anab. For Higo—From London—Mr. Franklin. For Yokohama—From London—Mr. Parker, and J. R. Scott. From Singapore—Mr. and Mrs. Dugdale, infant and anab. For Aracoto—Misses J. Koch, and servant. From Calcutta—Mr. and Mrs. Oliff. Mrs. Levy, Major Wallerstein, Misses Judda and Obada. Misses Andis and B. N. Ellis, and 6 servants, and 231 Chines.

REPORTS.

The Spanish steamer Don Juan, from Manila 29th August, reports bad fine and smooth with moderate S.W. winds and squalls.

The British steamer Soochow, from Pakhoi 28th August, and Holloway 30th, reports bad fine and clear weather throughout.

The British steamer Tion, from Liverpool 20th July, and Singapore 24th August, reports bad fine and clear weather throughout.

The British steamer Nassau, from Manila 28th August, reports bad moderate S.W. winds and fine weather, moderate sea throughout the passage.

The British steamer Aragon, from Foochow 27th August, Amy 28th, and Swatow 30th, reports from Foochow to Amy experienced moderate S.W. winds and the weather. From Amy to Swatow light variable winds and fine weather. From Swatow to Amy light variable winds and smooth sea. From Clayp. Island to Lompoos moderate W.S.W. winds and clear weather.

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## INTIMATIONS.

## NOTICE.

A. S. WATSON &amp; CO., LIMITED.

FLOWER AND VEGETABLE  
SEEDS.

SEASON 1889-1890.

WE have just received our New Season's importations direct from the best Growers in England, France, and Germany, and are now prepared to execute all orders received for same with prompt and careful attention.

## DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUES

for ordering from (continuing trials for gardening) will be sent free on application.

ORDERS FROM ONE PERSON £5 to £10  
ALLOWED 25 PER CENT. DISCOUNT.

## ORDERS FROM ONE PERSON OVER £10 ALLOWED AN EXTRA 5 PER CENT. DISCOUNT.

## SINGLE PACKETS AT LIST PRICES.

## WE GUARANTEE.

That all seeds sold by us shall prove to be as represented; to the extent that should they not do so, we will replace them, or send other seeds to the same value.

But we cannot guarantee the crop and further than the above offer, as there are so many cases which operate unfavourably in the germination of seeds in a tropical climate, over which we have no control.

Among the causes of failure may be mentioned unfavourable weather, which is one of the most important. The soil may be in proper condition when the seed is planted, but the weather which follows it may be too wet, which will cause the seed to rot; or it may be too hot and dry, which does not favour the germination of the seed.

The soil may also be unfavourable for the variety of seed planted. And lastly, the seeds may be and are frequently destroyed by various of kinds. Such occurrences are beyond the power of man to prevent, and for which we cannot be responsible.

Hongkong, 2nd September, 1889.

PATENT D E S S I C A T I N G  
O R

## DRYING BOTTLES.

We beg to call special attention to our New PATENT D E S S I C A T I N G BOTTLES which have been specially designed and manufactured for us.

By the use of these Bottles, CIGARS, SEEDS, and GOODS of all kinds, which are susceptible to the destroying influences of moisture can be kept in good and perfect condition.

Wherever or wherever the atmosphere is surrounded with moisture these Bottles will be found invaluable.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.  
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.  
Hongkong, 2nd September, 1889.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.  
A SHAREHOLDER.—Received too late for insertion in this issue.

Communications on Editorial matters should be addressed to "The Editor" and those on business "The Manager," and not to individuals by name.

Correspondents are requested to forward their name and address with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good worth.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until countermanded.

Orders for extra copies of the *Daily Press* should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited.

## TELEPHONE NO. 12.

SIEH.  
On the 31st July, at Mount Annan, Annan, Scotland, the wife of JOHN BELL-LEYSING, of a son. [1890]

## The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, SEPTEMBER 2ND, 1889.

A CORRESPONDENT in another column makes a well founded complaint as to the state of the law in this colony. On the 12th August, 1882, a Commission was appointed "to prepare and report upon drafts for a revised edition of the Ordinances, and for amendments of the same, incorporating the results of such recent Imperial legislation as appears applicable to the circumstances of the Colony, and providing for improved procedure in the administration of Justice." For more than seven years this Commission has been in existence, and what has it done? We cannot say that it has done nothing, for a few Ordinances have been passed on its recommendation consolidating and amending the law on particular subjects. Its work, however, has been of a very fragmentary and spasmodic character; at the end of seven years' labour a complaint like that of "A Law Student" still remains possible, and at the present rate of progress seven years will not see the end of the work the Commission was appointed to do.

As to remedies for the existing chaotic condition of the law, "A Law Student" says there are only two alternatives. The first is to thoroughly revise the Ordinances and to fill up some of the most noticeable gaps. The initial step towards this, he says, would seem to be to have a complete edition of the Ordinances at large, and a useful revision would then require a considerable amount of diligent and skilful work. He suggests the question, however, whether the materials to work on are good enough to make such a revision worth undertaking. The second alternative, which our correspondent considers perhaps the better one, is to abolish the local Ordinances (with very few exceptions) in toto, and introduce into this colony the English law as it at present exists so far as it can be made applicable. This second alternative is certainly not the one we should advocate. The law passed in Hongkong since 1843 embody the results of practical experience of the requirements of the colony. To sweep them away in the drastic manner proposed by "A Law Student" would involve a serious sacrifice, and the legislature would immediately have to set about doing a great deal of the work over again. When a colony is established necessarily the law of the mother country in existence at the time must be taken as the basis on which local law is afterwards built up. There must be some point of time at which the branching

off takes place, after which the local legislature can incorporate just so much of English law as it may deem necessary in its own legislation. After a long term of years to make a clean sweep of all local legislation and adopt English law as a whole up to that time would be a very hazardous experiment! Our correspondent speaks of Shanghai and Japan as being far ahead of Hongkong in enjoying the advantages of recent English legislation. But in the case of the Port English law is applied only to native born British subjects, whereas in Hongkong there is a large native population to be governed, and an independent legislature is an absolute necessity if local wants and conditions are to be duly considered. It is perhaps a disgrace to the Government that so little of recent English law should have been adopted in this colony, but on the other hand there are many recently passed English laws which are altogether inapplicable to the circumstances here. The fact that our local legislature has its shortcomings is no sufficient argument for impugning its right of existence.

The wholesale adoption of English law, being, then, out of the question, we are confined to the other alternative suggested by "A Law Student," namely, a thorough revision of the Ordinances and a filling up of some of the more noticeable gaps. This is what the 1882 Commission was appointed to do, and in which they have made so little progress. If unsatisfactory progress is to be had, we think the Commission will have to be discharged and the work confided to a thorough, competent specialist who will proceed with it steadily until its completion. It, however, the work is to be entrusted to one man, it would perhaps be advisable to confine it to consolidation merely, leaving amendments and incorporation of English law to be dealt with separately afterwards. With the Ordinances consolidated and printed in a complete edition a good deal of the present inconvenience would disappear and a clear field for substantive improvement of the law would be left. It is doubtful, we understand, whether Mr. O'MALLEY will return to the colony, and in any case it is practically settled that the next incumbent of the office of Attorney-General will not be allowed the privilege of private practice. Under these circumstances this officer would be able to devote more time and attention to his official duties than has hitherto been the case, and the consolidation of the Ordinances is a subject which might fairly be required of him. Such reasonable assistance as is necessary being of course afforded him, for the work would be by no means light. It is obviously useless to rely upon the Law Revision Commission.

Referring to the proposal to raise another Volunteer force here the *Admiralty and Home Guards Gazette* says: "The corps, to be formed by arrangement with the Government, will be a small one, and will be used for garrisoning Hongkong, and for patrolling the coast, and the men will be selected from among the best of the local population."

The Agents (Messrs. Macpherson & Co.) inform us that the Norddeutsche Lloyd's steamer *Bayern*, carrying the German mail of the 6th August, left Singapore on Friday at 1 p.m. for

the first part of her voyage, which is to be made by steamship to the Suez Canal, and thence to the Red Sea.

The new company which is being formed to take over Messrs. Major Bros.' numerous businesses at Shanghai is to take the *Delta News*, to have a nominal capital of £10,000, of which it is proposed to issue now £10,250,000 in 5,500 shares of £2 each. It will comprise the *Delta*, *Delta* factory, soap factory, printing and photo-lithographing establishment, and the *Delta* newspaper, the paper entitled *Delta* is taken over by the new company.

A number of steamers, including the *Delta*, will be sent to the Suez Canal, and the *Delta* will probably be closed forthwith, as their continuance is useless. The future policy of the Government of India will be simply the exclusion of Tibetan influence from Sikkim. Mr. Hart probably returns very shortly to China as all idea of further negotiations has been definitely given up.

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